(a) the viability status of the units under Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL) and Assam Petro Chemicals Ltd. (APL);

(b) whether any programme for revamping and expansion of the units under BVFCL and APL is under consideration of Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the total outlay, amount earmarked and target set for their commissioning during Eleventh plan period;

(d) whether any proposal for supporting the ongoing activities of these two old PSUs are pending for clearance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) With regards to Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. (APL), it is submitted that there is no such public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers. APL is under the administrative control of Government of Assam with 88% equity participation from Assam Industrial Development Corporation.

Regarding Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL), the units at Namrup are not economically viable under the New Pricing Scheme for urea units in the country. The company is making losses due to low energy efficiency of its units and inadequate availability of gas for 100% capacity utilization of its units at Namrup.

The revamp of Namrup-II & Namrup-III units was undertaken during the Tenth Plan period and has already been completed in November, 2005. The proposal for recognition of cost of revamp is under active consideration of the Government. The company has asked for some special dispensation under the New Pricing Scheme for making its operations economically sustainable. The company has asked for higher energy preset norm at 12.70 Gcal per MT for Namrup-II unit and 12.78 Gcal per MT for Namrup-III unit. It has also asked for recognition of capital investment in the plant beyond the cut off date of March 2003 under New Pricing Scheme for urea units, for finalization of its concession price. The proposal of the company is being looked into by the Government.

The Government has decided that appropriate support continue to be provided to the Project till such time a comprehensive proposal is brought up after requisite appraisals and consultations.

Variation in figures of BPL beneficiaries

173. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Central Government, the number of BPL card holders in the country stood at 4.02 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in a recent meeting held with the States representatives by Food Secretary, the States have given a figures of 8.13 crore BPL card holders;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the reasons behind this high variation of figures between the Centre and the States; and

(f) by when Government is going to notify the BPL families so as to provide them with food security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of Government of India for estimating poverty at national and state levels. For allocations of foodgrains to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families and 4.09 crore other BPL families.

A statement showing State-wise estimated number of BPL families and BPL and AAY cards issued by the State Governments/UT Administrations is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). The wide variation in number of BPL families accepted by Central Government for allocations of foodgrains and BPL ration cards issued by State/UT Governments is to a large extent because of exclusion and inclusion errors in identifying the BPL families.

(f) For taking up next round of BPL census in rural and urban areas, Ministries of Rural Development and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation have to issue guidelines.

Statement

State-wise total no. of BPL households & ration cards issued to BPL, AAY households as reported by 31.10.2009

(Figures in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Estimated BPL Families as on 1.3.2000 based on 1993-94 Poverty Estimates	Ration Cards Issued by State/UT Govts.		
			BPL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	175.54	15.58	191.12
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99
3	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06
4	Bihar	65.23	39.94	24.29	64.23

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Chhattisgarh	18.75	11.56	7.19	18.75
6	Delhi	4.09	2.16	1.50	3.66
7	Goa	0.48	0.13	0.14	0.27
8	Gujarat	21.20	25.60	8.10	33.70
9	Haryana	7.89	9.04	2.92	11.96
10	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14
11	Jammu & Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36
12	Jharkhand	23.94	14.76	9.18	23.94
13	Karnataka	31.29	88.89	12.00	100.89
14	Kerala	15.54	14.83	5.96	20.79
15	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	52.65	15.82	68.47
16	Maharashtra	65.34	45.59	24.64	70.23
17	Manipur	1.66	1.02	0.64	1.66
18	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.70	1.83
19	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68
20	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24
21	Orissa	32.98	37.63	12.65	50.28
22	Punjab	4.68	2.89	1.79	4.68
23	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85
24	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43
25	Tamil Nadu *	48.63	180.71	18.65	199.36
26	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95
27	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79
28	Uttarakhand	4.98	3.46	1.51	4.97
29	West Bengal	51.79	38.10	14.80	52.90
30	A&N Islands	0.28	0.13	0.04	0.17
31	Chandigarh	0.23	0.09	0.02	0.11
32	D&N Haveli	0.18	0.12	0.05	0.17
33	Daman & Diu	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.04
34	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.02	0.012	0.03
35	Pondicherry	0.84	1.15	0.32	1.47
	TOTAL :	652.03	853.42	242.75	1096.17

* Separate figures of APL/BPL cards have not been made available by the Govt. of Tamil Nadu as there is no distinction between APL and BPL categorisation of households.